

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCSE-00 SCA-01 SY-04 SCCT-01

/057 W

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O R 230748Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6396

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 2170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, CASC, IS, JO

SUBJ: GRENADE ATTACK ON AMERICAN TOURIST GROUP

1. INFO WE HAVE OBTAINED FROM ISRAELI AUTHORITIES AND MEMBERS OF TOUR GROUP AND LOCAL TRAVEL AGENCY GENERALLY AGREES WITH PUBLIC MEDIA REPORTS RE DEC 22 GRENADE ATTACK IN BETHANY (EASTERN OUT-SKIRTS OF JERUSALEM) ON BUS CARRYING AMERICAN TOURIST GROUP. ONLY ONE OF 17 MEMBERS OF PARTY INJURED WAS DE JEAN REPLOGLE, 16 YEAR OLD GIRL, HIT BY GRENADE FRAGMENTS IN THIGH. WE TALKED TO HADASSAH HOSPITAL WHICH REPORTS HER CONDITION GOOD FOLLOWING LENGTHY SURGERY. WE TALKED TO TOUR GROUP LEADER SHORTLY AFTER INCIDENT AND OFFERED ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS, WHO ALSO MEMBERS OF TOUR GROUP, BUT THEY HAVE SO FAR REQUIRED NONE FROM CONGEN.

2. INCIDENT OCCURRED JUST AS BUS ABOUT TO DEPART AFTER SIGHTSEEING STOP. POLICE BELIEVE GRENADE THROWN FROM ROOF OF NEARBY BUILDING. IT BLEW TWO SMALL HOLES IN SIDE OF BUS. LOCAL
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RESIDENT ALSO SLIGHTLY INJURED, TREATED AT HOSPITAL AND

RELEASED. NUMBER OF SUSPECTS QUESTIONED BY POLICE BUT WE
UNDERSTAND ONLY ONE ARRESTED.

3. THIS IS FIRST OF RECENT ATTACKS APPARENTLY NOT SPECIFICALLY
AIMED AT ISRAELIS. ATTACKER WOULD NOT NECESSARILY HAVE BEEN AWARE
OF NATIONALITY OF GROUP, HOWEVER, WHICH WAS TRAVELLING IN LOCAL
HIRED BUS. ANY TERRORIST EFFORTS DESIGNED TO DISCOURGAGE TRAVEL
TO AREA DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON WOULD APPEAR TO BE TOO LATE, IN ANY
EVENT, SINCE TOURISTS ALREADY HERE OR ENROUTE. THERE COULD, OF
COURSE, BE PLAN TO DISRUPT HOLIDY EVENTS AND GENERALLY
CREATE TROUBLE FOR ISRAELIS AND TOURISTS, BUT IT ALSO POSSIBLE
THIS WAS ISOLATED INCIDENT.
DAY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
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